#### (12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

# (19) World Intellectual Property **Organization**

International Bureau





#### (43) International Publication Date 7 April 2005 (07.04.2005)

**PCT** 

### (10) International Publication Number WO 2005/031471 A1

(51) International Patent Classification7: 15/00, B65D 83/06

G03G 15/08,

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/JP2004/014690

(22) International Filing Date:

29 September 2004 (29.09.2004)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

2003-340486 30 September 2003 (30.09.2003) IP 2003-428439 24 December 2003 (24.12.2003) JP 2004-269310 16 September 2004 (16.09.2004) JP

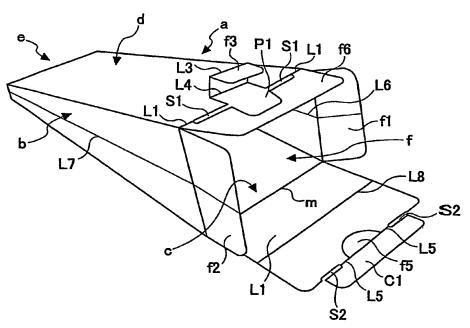
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): RICOH COMPANY, LTD. [JP/JP]; 3-6, Nakamagome 1-chome, Ohta-ku, Tokyo 1438555 (JP).
- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): HITOSUGI, Teruo

[JP/JP]; 653-13, Nakatogari, Suntohgunnagaizumicho, Shizuoka 4110942 (JP).

- (74) Agent: ITOH, Tadahiko; 32nd Floor, Yebisu Garden Place Tower, 20-3, Ebisu 4-chome, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 1506032 (JP).
- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: CONTAINER STORAGE BOX FOR DEFORMABLE CONTAINER CONTAINING FINE PARTICLES FOR IMAGE **FORMATION** 



(57) Abstract: A container storage box of the present invention holds a flexible container that includes a flexible part and is capable of discharging its fluid contents for an image forming apparatus. The flexible container is taken out of the container storage box and is placed in a container loading part of the image forming apparatus. The container storage box has rigid sidewalls that prevent the flexible container from deforming during storage. The rigid sidewalls keep the flexible a container in a configuration that is adapted to a container loading part of the image forming apparatus.



## WO 2005/031471 A1



SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.